

Public Outreach

This section presents information on outreach done along the route. State and federal laws require public involvement to be a part of transportation decision making. While such laws are meant to promote fairness and equity in decision-making, Caltrans realizes that there are recognizable benefits to involving the public early and continuously. The benefits include increased credibility, strengthened public support and trust, involved public resources efficiently with less need for re-evaluation.

There are many opportunities for public input through out the project development process. Caltrans solicits and records public input during the identification of a project need, during the environmental study process and at other relevant project milestones. Public involvement for route specific planning offers unique opportunities for Caltrans to obtain and use region-wide community input about a route. Because routes like SR 299 span multiple jurisdictions, planning efforts must take care to address individual community issues along with region-wide issues. These issues can include local traffic flow, economic/business development, traveler information systems, regional mobility and safety.

Key elements of public outreach efforts for the SR 299 Transportation Concept Report included:

- Media Outreach: Outreach to the media was done prior to public workshops.
- Three Public Workshops.
- Outreach to Native American Tribes.
- Meetings with the RTPA Executive Directors and Technical Advisory Committees to discuss key items to be included in the report. This process was used to determine what role the agencies desired to play in the process of developing the TCR, receive technical recommendations and key contacts for outreach, and determine how each agency preferred to proceed with review and comment on the document.
- Internet Website. The draft document was posted on the Internet for public viewing and further comment.
- Local Transportation Commission Meetings.

Public Workshops held for SR 299 TCR in March of 2009



Montgomery Creek-March 18



Alturas-March 24



Burney-March 30

See **Appendix I - Public Involvement** for: A summary of outreach activities, workshop notes summarizing comments made by the public and public involvement website links that provide information about District 2 projects and the project planning process.

Coordination With Other Agencies and Plans

During preparation of the TCR, local, and regional planning documents were reviewed. These documents include City and County General Plans, Regional Transportation Plans, Resource Management Plans, traffic studies, TCRs of adjoining Caltrans Districts, statewide planning tools (ITMS, CTIS, CTIPS, etc.) and other related documents. Specific plans reviewed for the SR 299 TCR are listed in **Appendix K - References**.

It is also important for Caltrans to consider plans, projects and goals of other agencies as management decisions are made for SR 299. As an example, when building a project in close proximity to a suggested future Intelligent Transportation Systems location, coordination with local and regional plans and agencies during the project development may help identify opportunities to install similar infrastructure and/or help to preserve opportunities for future installation.